

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIA-06 PA-01 /018 W

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R 021310Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7477

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 11273

FOLLOWING TEL MADRAS 1279 DTD 22 JUL 76 RCVD NEW DELHI
BEING REPEATED TO YOU. QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRAS 1279

DELHI PASS USIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SOPN, CASC, IN

SUBJECT: GOI REFUSAL OF PRESS ACCREDITATION - VISIT OF BALTIMORE
SUN HONG KONG BUREAU CHIEF ISAACS

REF: NEW DELHI 10665

1. SHORTLY AFTER RECEIPT REFTEL, BALTIMORE SUN HONG KONG BUREAU
CHIEF ARNOLD R. ISAACS CALLED AT CONGEN FOR A BRIEF MEETING WITH ME.
(WE DID NOT MEET LONG, SINCE I HAD OTHER APPOINTMENTS BUT PLAN TO
GET TOGETHER FOR LONGER MEETING JULY 24.) ISAACS, WHO HAD JUST
ARRIVED IN MADRAS FROM COLOMBO, HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO GO TO
BOMBAY IMMEDIATELY, BUT HAS NOW DECIDED TO REMAIN IN MADRAS OVER
THE WEEKEND. HE TENTATIVELY PLANS TO ARRIVE IN BOMBAY ON MONDAY,
JULY 22QE-
REIQFH
YCEED#TO DELHI "SOMETIME NEXT WEEK."

2. ISAACS DID NOT TELL ME WHAT HE PLANS TO DO IN BOMBAY, BUT I
THOUGHT IT BEST TO BRIEF HIM ON WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO KAMM ON THE
QUESTION OF ACCREDITATION IN CASE HE, ISAACS, PLANS TO WORK IN
BOMBAY. ACCORDINTLY, I OUTLINED FOR HIM IN GENERAL TERMS THE
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CONTENTS OF PARAS 1 AND 2 OF THE EMBASSY'S 10665. ISAACS SAID HE

HAD NOT EVEN CONSIDERED THE SUBJECT OF ACCREDITATION, AND DID NOT KNOW WHETHER HE WOULD IN FACT REQUEST IT WHEN HE GETS TO NEW DELHI. HE SAID HE WOULD SEEK THE ADVICE OF NEW DELHI CORRESPONDENT PRAN SABHARWAL AND THEN DECIDE WHAT TO DO. HE SAID HE APPRECIATED THE INFORMATION BUT INDICATED HE IS NOT PARTICULARLY WORRIED, ADDING THAT ALL THE GOI MIGHT DO IS ASK HIM TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

3. ISAACS RECEIVED HIS INDIAN VISA IN COLOMBO. HE HAD ORIGINALLY APPLIED FOR A VISA IN HONG KONG BUT FOR REASONS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR DID NOT RECEIVE IT THERE. (I BELIEVE HE HAD THE IMPRESSION HIS APPLICATION HAD BEEN REFERRED TO DELHI.) IN ANY CASE, HE SAID HE HAD MADE IT CLEAR WHEN HE APPLIED IN COLOMBO THAT HE WAS A JOURNALIST.

4. I INFORMED ISAACS THAT I WOULD REPORT OUR CONVERSATION TO THE EMBASSY SO THAT OUR PRESS SECTION IS AWARE HE IS HERE. HE STATED THAT HE WILL CALL AT THE EMBASSY WHEN HE GETS TO DELHI, PRESUMABLY AFTER HE HAS TALKED TO SABHARWAL. IN THE MEANTIME, SINCE I WILL BE SEEING HIM AGAIN I COULD PASS ALONG ANY ADVICE THE EMBASSY MIGHT HAVE FOR HIM. SO FAR AS I KNOW, HE PLANS TO SPEND A QUIET WEEKEND IN MADRAS WRITING UP SOME OF HIS MATERIAL FROM COLOMBO. MCCASKILL

UNQUOTE
SAXBE

NOTE BY OCT: #TEXT AS RECEIVED.

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